



Minnesota's 4th District **E-Report!**

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



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Hot News!

McCollum Fights Cuts to Housing Aid

Rep. Betty McCollum joined her colleagues in sending a letter to the House Committee on Appropriations, urging them to alter a proposal within the VA/HUD Appropriations bill (HR 5605) that would rescind more than 125,000 rent assistance vouchers nationally.

"Up to 1000 or more Minnesotans could soon find themselves without the ability to put a roof over their families' heads. Many working families, seniors and disabled individuals rely on federal Section 8 rent assistance to make ends meet. Without this assistance, families could be left homeless and out in the cold," said Rep. McCollum.

On October 9, the Appropriations Committee approved HR 5605, which reduces the President's budget for the Section 8 housing voucher program by \$938 million. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, this reduction could result in the loss of more than 1,120 vouchers in Minnesota. These vouchers would have otherwise been made available to families struggling to find affordable housing.

Since its creation in the early 1970's, Congress has funded the renewal of every Section 8 voucher. If this formula change is enacted, for the first time in the history of the program, Congress would not provide sufficient funds to renew all vouchers that had been previously authorized and funded. 1.8 million Americans count on these vouchers to cover a share of their housing costs.

"I cannot stand by quietly and watch as families lose their housing. I urge my Republican colleagues to correct this problem," said Rep. McCollum.

"Pic" of the Week



Pictured from left to right are, former Minnesota State Representative Mary Jo McGuire, President of the Center for Women Policy Studies, Leslie R. Wolf, and Rep. Betty McCollum. They were joined by many others to discuss ways to ensure TANF recipients can seek economic self-sufficiency through a combination of work and postsecondary education.

Next Week in Washington

January 6 - Steering Committee Meeting

January 7 - Swearing-In Ceremony for newly elected and re-elected Members

January 8 - Senior Whip Meeting

January 8 - Meeting with Gillette Children's Hospital

January 8 - Meeting with the Lion and Lamb Project about protecting children from video game violence

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